

15 (441517) ROMSEY
LIBRARY
Stockbridge

1950

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health

ROMSEY & STOCKBRIDGE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

to the

ROMSEY & STOCKBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members of the Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for the year 1950. It is prepared in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Health.

Staff.

Medical Officer of Health	-	G. TATE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Retired 30th April, 1950). A. C. MACKENZIE, M.D., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	-	H. G. SMITH, CERT. S.I.B., A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspector		D. G. ANDREWS, CERT. S.I.B., A.R.S.I.
Rodent Officer	-	G. RAWLINS
Clerk	-	Miss P. COBBOLD

SECTION A.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

General Statistics.

Area (Acres) ...	...	83,672
Population (as estimated by the Registrar General)		25,620
Rateable Value (31.3.51) ...	...	£139,695
Product of each penny of General Rate	...	£554/13/7
Number of Council Houses (Built before 1939)	...	422
" " " " (Built after 1944)	...	160
	Total	582
Total Number of inhabited houses (from rate book)		7597

Summary of Vital Statistics for the year 1950, as supplied by the Registrar General.

			Total	Male	Female
Live Births—					
Total Registered	...	...	406	185	221
Legitimate ...	...	...	382	178	204
Illegitimate	...	...	24	7	17
Still Births—					
Total Registered	...	...	3	1	2
Legitimate ...	...	...	3	1	2
Illegitimate	...	...	0	0	0
Deaths—					
Total Registered	...	...	285	153	132
Maternal Mortality—					
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	0	-	0
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	0	-	0
Deaths from Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	0	-	0
Deaths from Special Causes—					
Cancer	...	...	43	21	22
Whooping Cough	...	...	0	0	0
Measles	...	...	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	0	0	0
Diphtheria	...	...	0	0	0
Enteritis (under 2 years of age)	...	...	0	0	0
Infant Mortality—					
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age :					
Total Registered	...	...	7	5	2
Legitimate ...	...	...	7	5	2
Illegitimate	...	...	0	0	0

	Comparative Statistics where available	
	Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District	England and Wales
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	15.8	16.2
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births	7.3	22.8
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	11.3	11.6
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year—		
All Infants per 1,000 live births ...	17.4	29.8
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	18.3	—
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0	—
Death Rates per 1,000 estimated average population :—		
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary ...	.52	} .36
„ Non-Pulmonary ...	0	
Cancer ... ..	.17	—
Measles	0	—
Diphtheria	0	—
Enteritis (under 2 yrs.) per 1,000 live births	0	1.9

Causes of Death during the year 1950.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	9	4	13
Tuberculosis (Other Forms)	0	0	0
Syphilitic Disease	2	2	4
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Other Infectious and Parasitic Diseases ..	2	0	2
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	10	2	12
„ „ Lung and Bronchus	2	1	3
„ „ Breast	0	5	5
„ „ Uterus	0	4	4
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	9	10	19
Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	1	0	1
Diabetes	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of the nervous system ...	11	23	34
Coronary Disease, Angina	17	12	29
Hypertension with heart disease... ..	6	4	10
Other heart disease	29	35	64
Other Circulatory	8	8	16
Influenza	0	0	0
Pneumonia	5	5	10
Bronchitis	2	2	4
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	0	0	0
Ulcers of stomach and duodenum	3	2	5
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa	1	0	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	1	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate	0	0	0
Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion ...	0	0	0
Congenital Malformations	2	2	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	14	7	21
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	0	2
All other accidents	11	1	12
Suicide	2	1	3
Homicide and operations of war	1	0	1
TOTAL	153	132	285

Comments on the Vital Statistics.

The death rate is a little higher than last year and the average age at which death occurs is high (over 70). Diseases of middle and old age, figure largely in the table of the causes of death. The birth rate is lower than last year. The fall in the still-birth rate per thousand live and still-births, from an average of 18 over the last three years to 7.3 this year, and the absence of any notification of puerperal pyrexia, and of any death in or in consequence of child-birth, is a notable improvement, and one which should be maintained. Due credit must be given to the General Medical Practitioners' service, the District Nurses and the hospital service of the area.

SECTION B.—General Provisions of Health Services.

1.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health of the Borough of Romsey and an Assistant County Medical Officer. This co-ordinates the medical services supplied by the County Council with those supplied by the District Councils.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector and Additional Sanitary Inspector are whole time Officers of the District Council.

2. *Nursing in the Home.*

There is no nursing arrangement or contribution made by the District Council, but 9 members represent the Council on the District Health Sub-Committee.

The District Nurses are responsible for maternity and general home nursing.

3. *Laboratory Facilities.*

These are available at The Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Royal Hants County Hospital, Winchester, The M.R.C. Laboratory, Southampton and The Pathology Dept., Salisbury General Infirmary.

4. *Ambulance Service.*

This service is supplied by the County Council.

5. *Hospital Services.*

(Regional Hospital Board) General, Maternity and Infectious Disease (including tuberculosis and smallpox) Hospital accommodation is available in Romsey, Southampton, Salisbury and Winchester.

6. *County Council Services.*

Child welfare clinics are held for this District as indicated :—

Braishfield	...	2nd & 4th Friday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Broughton	...	2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Houghton	...	2nd Monday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
King's Somborne		1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Lockerley	...	2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Maybush	...	1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Mottisfont	...	2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
North Baddesley		1st & 3rd Friday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Nursling	...	2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Over Wallop	...	1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2 p.m.
Romsey	...	Every Thursday at 10 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
Stockbridge	...	1st & 3rd Friday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
Wellow	...	2nd & 4th Friday of the month at 2.30 p.m.
West Tytherley...		1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.

Orthopædic Cases.

Children in this area attend clinics run by the staff of the Lord Mayor Treloar's Cripples Hospital, Alton, at Eastleigh, Andover, Totton, Southampton, Salisbury and Winchester and physiotherapy is given at a clinic in Romsey.

SECTION C.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Sanitary Inspector's Report.

1. *Water Supply.*

1 (a) One hundred and eight samples of water from wells were submitted during the year for bacteriological examination, approximately 70% were found to be satisfactory. Four samples submitted for chemical analysis were found to be satisfactory.

(b) No cases of serious shortage were experienced.

2. Seven Parishes in the southern part of the area receive a piped supply from the Southampton Corporation, this water is tested and examined by that Authority.

3. No cases of contamination by lead were encountered during the year.

4. Contamination was found in shallow wells, but after cleansing and chlorination they were proved satisfactory.

5. (a) The number of dwelling houses supplied from Public mains are as follows :—

Parish	Est. Number of Houses	Est. Population Served
Ampfield	267	1162
Chilworth	151	628
Michelmersh... ..	206	666
Millbrook	1531	4532
North Baddesley ...	393	1766
Nursling and Rownhams...	465	1639
Romsey Extra	152	498
Frenchmoor	9	36

(b) There are no dwelling-houses supplied from stand-pipes.

2. *Sewerage.*

Sewers have been laid in the Parish of Millbrook by the Southampton Corporation, to serve the housing estates developed by that Authority, within the Parish.

Small sewage disposal units have been constructed by the Council, to serve the new housing schemes within this area.

Further complaints were received of overflowing cesspools in the Parish of North Baddesley and at Upton Crescent in the Parish of Nursling and Rownhams. These two areas are particularly bad, nuisances are constantly created and the sewerage schemes under preparation for these areas are urgent necessities.

SECTION D.—Housing.

Council Houses Erected during the year	Hutted Camps		Houses Erected by Private Enterprise
	Number of Dwellings Occupied	Estimated Number of Persons Housed	
63	199	700	6

A survey of houses has revealed that within the Rural District (excluding the Parish of Millbrook) there are 346 houses which are incapable of repair at a reasonable expense. This type of property is causing concern, the dwellings are deteriorating, although efforts are made to keep them wind and weatherproof. In some instances where rents are only three or four shillings per week owners have asked for demolition orders to be served in order to relieve them of their responsibilities, but owing to the acute housing shortage action cannot be taken.

In addition there are some 700 persons housed in hutted camps, which were erected as temporary accommodation, but have now been in use in some instances for 10 years. There are eight licenced caravan sites in the area containing 55 caravans, and 45 moveable dwellings with individual licences. This makes a total of 645 families living in sub-standard dwellings, or in houses which are unfit for human habitation and which are incapable of repair at a reasonable expense.

SECTION E.

1. *Meat and Other Foods.*

All food premises are inspected at least twice a year.

There is no slaughtering carried out in this area, meat is delivered to the butchers by road from the abattoirs at Southampton. Three hundred and forty pounds of home killed meat was condemned as unfit for human consumption, through bone-taint.

Sixteen samples of pasteurized milk were taken and all the samples proved satisfactory.

2. *Food Poisoning.*

There was one outbreak of a mild type of Food Poisoning investigated during the year.

SECTION E—I.

1. *Factories.*

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	No. on Register (3)	Number of :—			M/c. line No. (7)
			Inspect- ions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers prosecut'd (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	12	17	-	-	1
(ii) Factories not in- cluded in (i) in which Sec. 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority ...	2	88	97	3	-	2
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	3	-	-	-	-	3
TOTAL ...		100	114	3	-	

2. Cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS (1)	M/c. line No (2)	Number of cases in which defects were :—					M/c. line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (6)	Prose- cutions (7)	
Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1) ...	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Overcrowding (Sec.2)	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Unreasonable temp- erature (Sec. 3) ...	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Inadequate ventila- tion (Sec. 4) ...	7	-	-	-	-	-	7
Ineffective drainage of Floors (Sec. 6)	8	-	-	-	-	-	8
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 7) :—							
(a) Insufficient ...	9	-	1	-	1	-	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	-	3	-	3	-	10
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	11	-	-	-	-	-	11
Other offences against the Act (not inclu- ding offences relat- ing to out-work) ...	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
TOTAL ...	60	-	4	-	4	-	60

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

		SECTION 110				SECTION 111			
Nature of Work		M-c. line No.	Number out-workers Aug. list Sec. 110	Default in sending lists	Prosecutions failure to give lists	Instances work in faulty Premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions	M-c. Line No.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	
Wearing { Making, etc.,	13	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Apparel { Cleaning and	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Washing ...	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Household Linen ...	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets ...	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Curtains and Furniture Hangings. ...	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Furniture and Upholstery	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Electro-plate ...	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
File Making ...	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Brass and Brass Articles	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
Fur Pulling... ...	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
Iron and Steel Cables and Chains	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Iron and Steel Anchors and Grapnels ...	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Cart Gear ...	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
Locks, Latches and Keys	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
Umbrellas, etc. ...	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Artificial Flowers ...	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
Nets, other than Wire Nets ...	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Tents ...	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Sacks ...	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
Racquet and Tennis Balls	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
Paper Bags ...	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
The Making of Boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper ...	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
Brush Making ...	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
Pea Picking ...	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Feather Sorting ...	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38
Carding, etc., of Buttons, etc. ...	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
Stuffed Toys ...	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
Basket Making ...	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41
Chocolate and Sweetmeats	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
Cosaques, Christmas Crackers, Christmas Stockings, etc. ...	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43
Textile Weaving ...	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
Lampshades ...	70	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	70
TOTAL ...									

SECTION F.—Prevalence and control over Infections and Other Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than tuberculosis) During the year 1950.

Disease	Total Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	19	3	0
Measles ...	3	0	0
Whooping Cough ...	72	1	0
Pneumonia ...	5	2	0
Erysipelas ...	6	2	0
Gastro-Enteritis ...	0	0	0
Ophthalmia ...	0	0	0
Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	3	2	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	0	0	0
Diphtheria ...	0	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS.

Cases notified and transfers :—

Pulmonary...	...	Males 16	Females 8	Total 24
Non-Pulmonary	...	Males 0	Females 3	Total 3
Deaths :—		Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	...	9	4	13
Non-Pulmonary	...	0	0	0

There was only a small notification of Infectious Diseases during the year. The absence of cases of Diphtheria should not be considered as an excuse to cease to press the value of immunisation. The estimated number of children in the area who had completed a full course of Diphtheria Immunisation by 31st December, 1950 is as follows :—

Children born during 1950	...	...	88
" " " 1949	...	...	245
" " " 1948	...	...	320
" " " 1947	...	...	263
" " " 1946	..	...	229
" " between 1945-1942 inclusive...			1168
" " 1941-1937 inclusive...			895
Total			3208

Booster doses given in 1950	...	...	171
Estimated population born since 1937	...	...	6318
" " " " " " " "	1946	...	2350
Percentage immunised of those born since 1937			50.8
" " " " " " "	1946		48.7

It is seen from these figures that the percentage of immunised children is dangerously low. Safety from an epidemic is not considered likely with an immunised percentage of children under 14 of less than 75%.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

A. C. MACKENZIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

